

U.S. Serial No.: 09/769,590

Inventor: Edmund W. Brown

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C1
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a flow conduit having a first end communicating with the first portion of the cavity in the housing and a second end communicating with the second portion of the cavity in the housing, the flow conduit including:

a first and second flow control valves for controlling the flow of fluid between the first and second portions of the cavity in the housing, each flow control valve including a flow regulator having a plurality of user selectable discrete settings for controlling the flow rate and for providing a discrete metered fluid flow through a corresponding flow control valve.

C2705

30. (Twice Amended) A dampening cylinder, comprising:

a cylindrical housing having first and second ends and an inner surface defining a cavity in the housing for receiving a fluid therein;

a piston slidably extending through the cavity in the housing;

a flange projecting from the piston and positioned within the cavity so as to divide the cavity in the housing into first and second portions, the flange terminating at a radially outer edge which forms a slidable interface with the inner surface of the housing;

a first conduit having a first end communicating with the first portion of the cavity in the housing and a second end;

a second conduit having a first end communicating with the second portion of the cavity in the housing and a second end; and

a control valve structure disposed between the first and second conduits for controlling the flow of fluid between the first and second portions of the cavity in the housing, the control valve structure includes first and second flow control valves in series between the first and second conduits;

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wherein the first flow control valve includes a flow regulator having a plurality of user selectable settings and being movable into the first flow path, the flow regulator providing a discrete metered fluid flow through the first flow path; and

wherein the second flow control valve includes a flow regulator having a plurality of user selectable settings and being movable into the first flow path of the second flow control valve, the flow regulator providing a discrete metered fluid flow through the first flow path.

C3
38. (Twice Amended) A dampening cylinder, comprising:
a cylindrical housing having first and second ends and an inner surface defining a cavity in the housing for receiving a fluid therein;
a piston slidably extending through the cavity in the housing;
a flange projecting from the piston and positioned within the cavity so as to divide the cavity in the housing into first and second portions, the flange terminating at a radially outer edge which forms a slidable interface with the inner surface of the housing;
a first conduit having a first end communicating with the first portion of the cavity in the housing a second end;
a second conduit having a first end communicating with the second portion of the cavity in the housing and a second end;
a first flow control valve having first and second orifices interconnected by first and second parallel flow paths, the first orifice connected to the second end of the first conduit so as to allow the first and second flow paths through the first flow control valve to communicate with the first portion of the cavity through the first conduit, the first flow control valve including:
a flow regulator having a plurality of user selectable settings and being movable into the first flow path through the first flow control valve, the flow regulator providing a discrete metered fluid flow through the first flow path; and

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a check valve disposed in the second flow path through the first flow control valve, the check valve allowing the flow of fluid through the second flow path through the first flow control valve in a first direction and preventing the flow of fluid through the second flow path through the first flow control valve in a second direction;

a second flow control valve having first and second orifices interconnected by first and second parallel flow paths and being connected in series with the first flow control valve, the first orifice of the second flow control valve connected to the second end of the second conduit so as to allow the first and second flow paths through the second flow control valve to communicate with the second portion of the cavity through the second conduit, and the second orifice of the second flow control valve communicating with the first orifice of the first flow control valve, the second flow control valve including:

a flow regulator having a plurality of user selectable settings and being movable into the first flow path through the second flow control valve, the flow regulator providing a discrete metered fluid flow through the first flow path; and

a check valve disposed in the second flow path through the second flow control valve, the check valve allowing the flow of fluid through the second flow path through the second flow control valve in the second direction and preventing the flow of fluid through the first flow path through the second control valve in the first direction.

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the telephone conference of October 30, 2002.

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